

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Cancelled).
2. (Cancelled).
3. (Original) A method, comprising the steps of:
monitoring travel data associated with the vehicle;
comparing planned timing of the vehicle along a route to updated vehicle status information;
contacting a user communications device before the vehicle reaches a vehicle stop along the route; and
informing the user of the vehicle delay with respect to the vehicle stop and of updated impending arrival of the vehicle at the vehicle stop, based upon the updated vehicle status information and the planned timing.
4. (Cancelled).
5. (Cancelled).
6. (Cancelled).
7. (Cancelled).
8. (Original) A system, comprising:
means for monitoring travel data associated with a vehicle;
means for comparing planned timing of the vehicle along a route to updated vehicle status information;
means for contacting a user communications device before the vehicle reaches a vehicle stop along the route; and

means for informing the user of the vehicle delay with respect to the vehicle stop and of updated impending arrival of the vehicle at the vehicle stop, based upon the updated vehicle status information and the planned timing.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the comparing step includes the step of evaluating the vehicle's current location to a scheduled location in order to determine if the vehicle is on time or late.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the step of comparing includes the step of evaluating the vehicle's progress along the route in terms of time with respect to a scheduled time that the vehicle should reach a location.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the route has a plurality of vehicle stops and wherein the comparing step is performed based upon the vehicle's progress along the stops of the route.

12. (Cancelled).

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the travel data comprises scheduled stop information.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of updating the scheduled stop information based upon tracking information pertaining to the vehicle.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the method is performed by a computer system that is a single computer or that comprises a distributed architecture with a plurality of computers that are communicatively coupled.

16. (Cancelled).

17. (Cancelled).

18. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, wherein the means for comparing includes a means for evaluating the vehicle's current location to a scheduled location in order to determine if the vehicle is on time or late.

19. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, wherein the means for comparing includes a means for evaluating the vehicle's progress along the route in terms of time with respect to a scheduled time that the vehicle should reach a location.

20. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, wherein the route has a plurality of vehicle stops and wherein the means for comparing analyzes the vehicle's progress along the stops of the route.

21. (Cancelled).

22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, wherein the travel data comprises scheduled stop information.

23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 22, further comprising a means for updating the scheduled stop information based upon tracking information pertaining to the vehicle.

24. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, wherein the system is a single computer or comprises a distributed architecture with a plurality of computers that are communicatively coupled.

25. (Cancelled).

26. (Cancelled).